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ADVISORY SERVICES AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

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Introduction

1. In its resolutions 1998/57 and 1999/73, the Commission on Human Rights requested the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit an analytical report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on the progress and concrete achievements made as well as obstacles encountered in the implementation of the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights and on the operation and administration of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

I. THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME IN 1999

A. Policy orientation

2. The Technical Cooperation Programme of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) supports countries in promoting and protecting all human rights at the national and regional level by incorporating international human rights standards in national laws, policies and practices and by building sustainable national capacities to implement these standards and ensure respect for human rights.

3. The Programme is carried out at the request of the concerned Government. Projects are formulated and implemented with the broadest possible participation of all elements of national societies, including civil society and national institutions, as well as the judicial, legislative and executive branches of the Government. The Programme is implemented in the context of the pursuit of national development objectives and national programmes and assistance coordinated by the United Nations system in support of these objectives.

4. Among the key result areas that have been defined by OHCHR for the period 1999-2001 the following deserve particular attention within the Technical Cooperation Programme: national capacity-building to develop strategies and structures for human rights, human rights education, charting a new course for the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development, racism, the rights of indigenous people, trafficking of women and children, gender and the human rights of women, the rights of the child, humanitarian law and human rights, human rights and the corporate sector, and developing a policy for future human rights field activities and consolidating existing activities.

B. Systemwide review of technical cooperation in the field of human rights

5. Following the recommendation of the Secretary-General in his report "Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform" (A/51/950 and addenda), the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in cooperation with agencies and programmes of the United Nations, has undertaken an analysis of technical assistance provided by United Nations entities in areas related to human rights in order to formulate proposals for the improvement of both the complementarity of action and responses to the needs of Member States.

6. The following central conclusions from the analysis can be identified:

(a) The interest of Member States in human rights technical assistance continues to increase. This requires a United Nations systemwide response;

(b) In addition to the United Nations human rights programme, an increasing number of agencies and programmes offer human rights-related assistance, including in the areas of sustainable development, good governance, the rule of law, human resources, protection of vulnerable groups, conflict prevention/resolution and confidence-building measures. Almost all respondents to the review perceive strong linkages between their mandated work and human rights;

(c) United Nations agencies and programmes are increasingly interested in human rights methodology. Some apply the "rights-based approach" to their own activities, in particular with regard to projects relating to sustainable development. However, significant measures are still needed to ensure a consistent approach to human rights throughout the United Nations system;

(d) All agencies and programmes share the conviction that technical cooperation in the field of human rights requires close systemwide cooperation, exchange of information and expertise, and more systematic coordination to fully utilize the existing potential. This should be supported by appropriate organizational measures and systemwide training, as well as the perception that human rights technical assistance is a part of the overall United Nations response to the needs of countries;

(e) Cooperation and coordination should be strengthened, both at the Headquarters and country levels. The importance of the latter is today widely recognized. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), including such tools as the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and Country Strategy Notes (CSN), should become an important vehicle for improved cooperation and coordination in the field of human rights technical assistance.

7. The analysis recommends the convening by the High Commissioner for Human Rights of workshops at the regional level involving United Nations partners active in the area. These workshops should elaborate on policies and practical measures to ensure a consistent approach to human rights, development of an appropriate methodology of work and cooperation, expansion of capacities to provide human rights assistance, more efficient use of available resources and thus, effective responses to actual needs on the ground.

8. OHCHR has initiated the follow-up to the recommendations with inter-agency consultations in Geneva and the forming of an inter-agency working group for preparation of a follow-up programme including activities at both regional and Headquarters level.

C. Project identification, formulation, appraisal and approval

9. The Technical Cooperation Programme of OHCHR is developed through established procedures, which include the following phases: request, needs assessment, project formulation, appraisal, approval, implementation, monitoring, evaluation.

10. Request. Technical cooperation projects at the national level are initiated by a formal request by the concerned Government.

11. Needs assessment. Following receipt of a request, the feasibility of the project is studied, taking into account recommendations by the competent United Nations human rights organs and bodies, including relevant recommendations by United Nations bodies and mechanisms, as well as the availability of resources. In case of a positive outcome of this process, a needs assessment mission is then usually fielded to define priority areas for a possible human rights project. The assessment team meets with all interested parties, both governmental and non-governmental, and United Nations and other agencies and organizations engaged in human rights-related areas, and collects all available relevant documentation and legislation. The report contains an analysis and assessment of the needs identified and proposals for action. Such an assessment is essential for tailoring projects to the specific needs of the requesting country.

12. Project formulation. The formulation of a technical cooperation project is an outcome of the priorities identified and the availability of resources. The Programme seeks to establish partnership for positive change. Through dialogue the project is defined within the limits of the Programme's mission, goals and objectives, priorities and limited financial resources. If additional information is necessary, or further discussions are needed to refine the project strategy, a project formulation mission may take place. Technically, projects are based on the Logical Framework Method for project formulation, including a clear identification of the country's human rights context and background; the human rights needs/problems to be addressed; solutions offered by the project; target beneficiaries (direct and indirect); long-term and immediate objectives of the project, results, outputs, activities, inputs and risks; and identification and development of indicators for measuring of impact.

13. Internal appraisal. In December 1998 the Project Review Committee (PRC) was established as a subcommittee of the Senior Policy Committee. PRC is the mechanism through which OHCHR, at senior level, monitors performance, provides guidance and exercises internal control of its action-oriented activities. PRC considers new projects and their revision with the aim of assessing and providing guidance on: the relevance of the proposed objectives, activities and underlying assumptions of the project to the mandates, and priorities of OHCHR, and its possible impact on the issues the project intends to address; the suitability and effectiveness of project management, and institutional and implementation arrangements; the soundness of financial requirements, according to OHCHR's priorities and actual resources; and the possible special interest of the project to OHCHR in terms of policy implications, replicability, innovations and risks.

14. One year after its establishment PRC has proved its value as a useful management tool. It has been an incentive for planning and has promoted operational policy discussions and cooperation across the branches of OHCHR; criteria and policy to guide staff in the preparation of project proposals have been developed. However, there is still room for further improvement. Consideration should be given to improved prescreening of proposals and further in-house consultations before projects are presented to PRC. The process of developing criteria for priority-setting and the process of developing regional strategies should continue and be enhanced.

15. External appraisal. Projects are also subject to an external appraisal system through the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation (VFTC). The establishment of PRC as the internal oversight and appraisal committee (a measure recommended by the Board of Trustees) allows the Board of Trustees to devote more time for other parts of its broad mandate (Commission resolution 1993/87), including advice in long-term programming of the OHCHR Technical Cooperation Programme.

16. Approval. Final approval rests with the High Commissioner, for OHCHR, and the Government concerned, and is formalized through the signature of the project document.

D. Implementation modalities

1. Regional approach and regional frameworks

17. Strengthening national capacities is decisive for any progress in the promotion and protection of human rights. However, OHCHR does not have the capacity to be present in all countries which are interested in technical cooperation projects. Therefore, OHCHR has developed a regional/subregional approach to support national efforts effectively. Initiatives at this level create the opportunity to draw on the expertise and best practices of countries in comparable situations, generate cooperation between neighbours, and allow for utilization of international resources in a concentrated, and thus more efficient manner. Developing regional/subregional frameworks for the promotion and protection of human rights should involve governmental agencies; parliaments; civil society; international organizations, in particular components of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and regional organizations. Such frameworks are not intended to be new structures but a combination of various initiatives at the regional/subregional level, the specific shape of which may vary from case to case, depending largely on local needs. This flexible concept should enhance intergovernmental cooperation, intensify exchange of experience and promote best practices between countries in comparable situations, leading to the design of common policies and programmes and linking various sectors of civil society. OHCHR has already gained some experience, especially in the Asian-Pacific region where activities include: annual workshops, exchanges of best practices and experiences, consultations and designation of a regional adviser on international human rights standards. In November 1999, OHCHR, in cooperation with the Government of Ecuador organized in Quito a regional workshop on the promotion and protection of human rights which adopted a technical cooperation framework programme for Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Management of projects

18. Projects covering one or few substantive areas or to be carried out in a short time are often implemented by the OHCHR Desk Officer in Geneva alone or with a minimum of administrative support from a UNDP country office. Projects of a more complex nature or requiring a longer period of implementation are often carried out with assistance of human rights presences in the field, acting as offices of OHCHR or components of larger United Nations operations.

19. In 1999, in addition to the technical cooperation field presences in El Salvador, Guatemala, Mongolia, Palestine, South Africa, southern Africa and Togo, which have been operational for several years, new presences were established in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Indonesia and Uganda. The subregional office based in Pretoria continued to implement and facilitate the implementation of activities at the regional level as well as in various countries of the southern African region. The Afghanistan presence, which is operating from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Activities (OCHA) in Islamabad, is responsible for assisting other United Nations agencies in integrating a human rights dimension in their assistance programmes. A number of OHCHR field presences combining monitoring and technical cooperation mandates also carried out programmes and activities in Abkhazia-Georgia, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

20. Representatives of all field presences with technical cooperation mandates participated in the second meeting of OHCHR field presences, which was held in Geneva in September 1999. The meeting included a session on "Technical cooperation: sustainable development of human rights capacity". Lessons learned from the evaluation, conducted in 1999, of two long-term OHCHR programmes in El Salvador and Togo were relayed as a starting point for a discussion on issues such as the sustainability of the results of OHCHR involvement in these countries, possible best practices on sustainable development of national capacities through technical cooperation projects, and an analysis of the conditions which may facilitate or hinder successful technical cooperation programmes. The session also included a discussion on the objectives and impact of regional technical cooperation initiatives, the relationship between regional and country programmes, and possible forms of involvement of field presences in the development and implementation of regional programmes, carried out in the context of recent OHCHR regional technical cooperation programmes.

3. Partnership with United Nations agencies and programmes

21. Enhanced collaboration with other United Nations actors in the implementation of technical cooperation activities allows for maximizing their impact and more efficient use of resources. Close cooperation is particularly significant with UNDP, based on the Memorandum of Understanding in force between the two agencies. One example is the joint programme for Human Rights Strengthening, HURIST, supporting the implementation of UNDP's policy on human rights as presented in the policy document "Integrating Human Rights with Sustainable Human Development". Its primary purposes are to test guidelines and methodologies and to identify best practices and learning opportunities in the development of national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights and in the application of a human rights approach to development programming. HURIST contributes to the international debate concerning major areas of relevance for human rights, particularly the economic and social effects of globalization. It supports UNDP country offices so requested by Governments to provide assistance in the field of human rights and generally contributes to the development of UNDP's capacity to apply a human rights approach to its work.

22. Another joint initiative is the ACT (Assisting Communities Together) project, launched in 1998 as a practical contribution to the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It focuses on a "bottom-up approach" by emphasizing

the role which civil society plays in the promotion and protection of human rights. The long-term objectives of the ACT project are to empower people at the local level to be pro-active in ensuring greater respect for human rights and to strengthen partnerships between the United Nations and local human rights constituencies. The project supports institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals undertaking human rights initiatives by providing micro-grants of up to US$ 3,000. ACT is funded by the United Nations Foundation/United Nations Foundations for International Partnerships.

23. OHCHR is presently also implementing technical cooperation projects at the national, regional and global levels in close cooperation with other United Nations agencies and programmes, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Staff College and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (see also para. 5).

4. Cooperation with non-United Nations partners

24. The Programme is also seeking to work with non-United Nations partners such as the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the African Commission on Human Rights and Peoples' Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR), the United Nations Latin American Institute for Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD), the Andean Commission of Jurists and others. For example, in Abkhazia (Georgia) OHCHR and OSCE have a joint office to, inter alia, implement a technical cooperation project.

E. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons learned

25. Monitoring. Progress in project implementation is assessed on an ongoing basis by desk officers, the Project Review Committee, and through project monitoring missions involving broad consultations with all national and international counterparts. Project monitoring involves examination of the strategy pursued by the project and ensures that any adjustment needed to meet the project objectives and the human rights needs of the country will be made.

26. Evaluation. The final evaluation assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of the project activities. It also aims at assessing the sustainability of the project, in particular in terms of the impact on the human rights situation of the country concerned with specific regard to the sectors and problems addressed by the project. The Board of Trustees of the VFTC and external consultants play an increasing role in the evaluation of the projects.

27. Lessons learned. Evaluation results provide documented evidence on the experience gained from past action to improve the future work of the OHCHR Technical Cooperation Programme. Lessons learned are the ultimate expression of evaluation results and should highlight the strengths and weaknesses in project identification, design and management that affected the performance and impact. Thus, they should form the basis for policy recommendations. This crucial part of the project cycle is still a weak part of the Programme

and further development is needed. Part of the problem is linked to the recognized difficulty of measuring the direct impact of technical cooperation projects and programmes on the implementation of human rights.

F. Substantive areas

28. The Technical Cooperation Programme offers assistance in a wide range of substantive areas which are summarized below (see also sect. II B of the report which provides information on specific projects).

1. National human rights institutions

29. An important objective of the Technical Cooperation Programme is to consolidate and strengthen the role which national human rights institutions can play in the promotion and protection of human rights. To this end, information materials and a manual have been developed for those involved in the establishment and functioning of national human rights institutions. In addition, a number of seminars and workshops have been conducted to provide government officials with information and expertise in the structure and functioning of such bodies. These events have also served as forums for exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and operation of national human rights institutions. Direct cooperation in establishing or strengthening national human rights institutions has been offered, often in collaboration with UNDP, to some 30 countries. For further and more detailed information reference is made to the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/54/336).

2. Administration of justice

30. The Programme provides training courses for judges, lawyers, prosecutors and prison officials, as well as law enforcement officers. Such courses are intended to familiarize participants with international human rights standards relevant for the administration of justice; facilitate examination of humane and effective techniques for the performance of penal and judicial functions in a democratic society; and teach trainers to include this information in their own training activities. Topics offered in courses for judges, lawyers, magistrates and prosecutors include: international systems of human rights protection; the independence of judges and lawyers; human rights standards applicable in criminal investigations, arrest and pre-trial detention; elements of a fair trial; juvenile justice; protection of the rights of women in the administration of justice; and human rights under a state of emergency.

31. Similarly, the training courses for law enforcement officials cover a variety of topics, including the following: relevant international human rights standards; the duties and principles of the code of conduct for the police in democracies; the use of force and firearms by law enforcement agencies; protection against torture and other inhuman treatment or punishment; effective methods of legal and ethical interviewing; human rights during arrest and pre-trial detention; and the legal status and the rights of the accused.

3. Assistance for constitutional and legislative reform

32. Assistance is provided with a view to ensuring consistency of national legislation with the international human rights standards. The assistance may take the form of advisory services provided by experts, organization of conferences, provision of human rights information and documentation, assistance in drafting laws, or support for public information campaigns to ensure the involvement of all sectors of society in law-making. This Programme component includes assistance with respect to constitutional law; penal codes and codes of criminal procedure; prison regulations; laws regarding minority protection; laws affecting freedom of expression, association and assembly; immigration and nationality laws; laws on the judiciary and legal practice; security legislation; and, in general, any law which might have an impact, directly or indirectly, on the realization of internationally protected human rights.

4. National parliaments

33. Projects developed in cooperation with national parliaments address, inter alia, ratification of international human rights instruments, the provision of information on comparative national human rights legislation, the role of parliamentary human rights committees and, in general, the role of parliament in promoting and protecting human rights.

5. The armed forces

34. The Programme has carried out a number of training activities for military officers on the principles of human rights. It conveys the importance and applicability of the rule of law and human rights in the activities of the armed forces, as well as their role in a democratic State.

6. Electoral assistance

35. This component includes the preparation of guidelines for analysis of electoral laws and procedures, publication of a handbook on human rights and elections, and public information relating to human rights and elections.

7. Treaty reporting

36. The Programme regularly organizes training activities for government officials responsible for the reports due under international human rights treaties to which their State is a party. Such assistance is provided at national and regional levels. The fellowship programme facilitates participation in the training which includes workshops with experts from various treaty-monitoring bodies, as well as specialized OHCHR staff. An OHCHR Manual on Human Rights Reporting has been produced and visits to observe meetings of treaty bodies are being organized.

37. The fellowship course for 1999 was facilitated by the United Nations Staff College Project in Turin, Italy. Due to circumstances beyond the control of the organizers, the training course has been postponed and will take place from 7 to 18 February 2000. Twenty-six

candidates have been selected to attend the training representing 13 countries: Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Gambia, Indonesia, Kenya, People's Democratic Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia.

8. Non-governmental organizations and civil society

38. Strengthening civil society is one of the aims of the Programme. OHCHR is increasingly being called upon to provide assistance to national non-governmental organizations in the context of its country activities, including them in seminars and training courses and supporting appropriate projects they have developed. Non-governmental organizations are not only addressees of technical cooperation projects but increasingly are also involved in their implementation. This empowers civil society and increases the potential of the Programme.

9. Training materials

39. As part of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, OHCHR has continued to develop its series of training manuals and handbooks, for use by both instructors and participants. OHCHR training materials support all training activities implemented within the framework of global, regional and national technical cooperation programmes. Training manuals are tailored for specific audiences and thus focus on the relevant substantive aspects of human rights protection and appropriate pedagogical techniques. In addition to their role in training, the manuals constitute a valuable resource for organizations and individuals involved in human rights education at all levels.

40. The OHCHR Professional Training Series is designed primarily to provide support to the training activities carried out by the Office under its programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights, and to assist other organizations involved in human rights education for professional groups. Recently, Human Rights and Law Enforcement: A Manual on Human Rights Training for the Police,[1] and its pocket guide, International Human Rights Standards for Law Enforcement: A Pocket Book on Human Rights for the Police[2] have been issued in French and Spanish. Another publication, Human Rights Training: A Guide to Human Rights Training for Adult Professionals, is planned.

41. The Office, in collaboration with the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ILO) at Turin, has developed the Training Package on Human Rights Treaty Reporting, which is composed of three distinctive elements: a manual, a trainer's guide and a pocket guide. The package has been published in English, French and Spanish.

42. Work has continued on the six training packages for human rights monitors, judges and lawyers, prison officials, primary and secondary schoolteachers, journalists, and national and local non-governmental organizations. In the development of these materials, OHCHR works in close cooperation with relevant experts and organizations. These training packages are in the final stage of preparation.

G. Integration of a gender dimension and economic, social and cultural rights in the technical cooperation programme

43. OHCHR has developed guidelines for integrating economic, social and cultural rights as well as guidelines for integrating a gender perspective in the preparation and execution of workshops, training and seminars. Guidelines have also been prepared for integrating a gender perspective in project formulation and project evaluation missions. These guidelines are currently being reviewed by OHCHR with a view to emphasizing the relationship between economic, social and cultural rights and gender. Once finalized, dissemination of the guidelines will be accompanied by staff training to ensure their practical implementation in technical cooperation activities. Further, the development has commenced of a manual for practitioners on "Implementing Economic, Social and Cultural Rights into the Work of National Human Rights Institutions". OHCHR, together with the Council of Europe, has also initiated a Human Rights Anti-Trafficking programme comprising a series of awareness-raising and training activities.

H. Management, administration and financing

44. The Activities and Programmes Branch through the Geographical Teams, assisted by the Methodology Team, is responsible for the Programme's management. Administrative support is provided by United Nations Office at Geneva, United Nations Office for Project Services or UNDP, as appropriate. To improve programme performance two training courses on project management were held in 1999 for geographical desk officers.

45. The Board of Trustees of the VFTC was set up in 1993 pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/87, to advise the Secretary-General on the administration and operation of the Fund and to encourage contributions to the Fund. The Board is composed of the following members: Ms. Leila Takla (Egypt), Chairperson; Mr. Luis Pérez Aguirre (Uruguay); Ms. Anne-Marie Lizin (Belgium); Mr. Kinhide Mushakoji (Japan); and Mr. Krzysztof Skubiszewski (Poland). The new Coordinator of the Voluntary Fund has been serving as secretary of the Board since he took up his responsibilities in March 1999.

46. In 1999, the Board held its eleventh and twelfth sessions, from 14 to 17 June and from 13 to 15 December, respectively. During its sessions and through correspondence, the Board considered 14 new project proposals; reviewed 2 recently completed and evaluated projects; examined the implementation status of 9 current projects and activities; discussed project priorities, formats and procedures; examined financial and administrative matters concerning the Fund and discussed the Board's fund-raising efforts.

47. Technical cooperation activities are funded mainly by the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights and partly from the United Nations regular budget for technical cooperation in the field of human rights. Financial information concerning the Voluntary Fund is provided in the annex. Status reports on activities and contributions are prepared by the secretariat of the Voluntary Fund and are available upon request.

48. Since April 1999 a senior fund-raising officer has taken up her responsibilities in OHCHR. As part of a new fund-raising strategy, OHCHR has developed a global Annual

Appeal, beginning in the year 2000, which provides a thorough presentation of the planned activities and which it is hoped will encourage more predictable and timely funding and permit longer-term planning of activities. The Annual Appeal includes projects to be funded by the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation.

II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN 1999[3]

A. Projects completed

49. The following projects were completed during 1999:

Latin-American Region (RLA/95/AH/32): Preparation of five studies on prison conditions. National seminars to discuss studies and formulate penitentiary policies in El Salvador took place in February and March 1999. Three project monitoring missions were undertaken in March 1997, October 1998 and February/March 1999. Follow-up to be defined in consultation with the Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD). Reports of national seminars available.

Togo (TOG/95/AH/18): Support to the development of a human rights culture and the rule of law. Final project evaluation mission: 1-18 June 1999.

Latin-American Region (RLA/96/AH/09): Network of judicial information and training of magistrates in the Andean region. Final evaluation was conducted from March to April 1999. Final report available.

Latin-American Region (RLA/96/AH/12): Strengthening of the police and improvement of the application of international human rights standards in Central America and Panama. Project monitoring mission: October 1998. Follow-up to be defined. Awaiting final payment. Partial follow-up will be provided through the Nicaragua project (with the Central American Police Association).

Burundi (BDI/96/AH/21): The project provides international lawyers (usually six at a time) to work side by side with eight Burundese fellows to defend the accused and the victims before the three appeal courts of Burundi. Eighth session: January-February 1999; ninth session: April-May 1999; tenth session: July 1999; eleventh session: October-November 1999. Activities continue within the Burundi field presence.

Asian-Pacific Region (RAS/98/AH/09): This project gave support to national human rights institutions and thereby enhanced national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights. Workshop held in September 1998.

Asian-Pacific Region (RAS/98/AH/15): Training programme on economic, social and cultural rights held in Manilla from 8 to 15 May 1999. Compilation of training materials finalized.

Asian-Pacific Region (RAS/99/AH/12): National institutions and NGOs working in partnership. Meeting took place from 26 to 28 July 1999.

Asian-Pacific Region (RAS/99/AH/16): Strengthening the Asia-Pacific national human rights institutions. Meeting took place from 6 to 10 September 1999. Two reports available.

B. Projects under implementation[4]

1. Global projects

50. Global projects under implementation:

GLO/95/AH/09. Support to action for national human rights institutions GLO/97/AH/13. Strengthening national human rights institutions

Date of approval by OHCHR:	3 July 1997
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 59,494 US$ 931,096

Activities: External evaluation of national institutions' activities under this project undertaken in April 1998; report issued. Project continuing on the basis of recommendations of the evaluation. Project being administered in cooperation with UNOPS. New phase for the year 2000/01 will be presented to the Board of Trustees by correspondence.

GLO/95/AH/16. Support to the implementation of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004)

Date of approval by OHCHR:	4 April 1996
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
Cooperating agency:	UNESCO
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 857,200

Activities: Training material drafted for NGOs (January 1999). Questionnaires for survey on existing programmes, materials and organizations for human rights education prepared and ready to be disseminated to all partners of the Decade (Governments, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), NGOs) in cooperation with UNESCO (June 1999). OHCHR materials for primary and secondary schools revised - ABC Teaching Human Rights (November 1999). Training materials drafted for civilian police and military peacekeepers (November 1999).

GLO/96/AH/24. Integration of a gender perspective into technical cooperation practices and procedures

Date of approval by OHCHR:	12 February 1997
Implementing agency:	OHCHR with the cooperation of the Division for the Advancement of Women
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 83,600

Activities: 1999 guidelines on project evaluation mission (PEM) and project formulation mission (PFM) developed.

GLO/96/AH/29. Integration of economic, social and cultural rights into technical cooperation practices and procedures

Date of approval by OHCHR: 12 February 1997
OHCHR contribution: US$ 83,600

Activities: Guidelines concerning workshops, training and seminars are being produced.

GLO/97/AH/01. Strengthening human rights in the former Yugoslavia

Date of approval by OHCHR: 3 October 1997
OHCHR contribution: US$ 165,545

Activities: All activities completed. Evaluation pending.

GLO/97/AH/20. Interim measures for the integration of economic, social and cultural rights into technical cooperation practices and procedures

Date of approval by OHCHR: 20 March 1998
OHCHR contribution: US$ 67,800

Activities: Work on "Practioners Handbook on Integrating Economic, Social and Cultural Rights" commenced February 1999. Drafting team met in May 1999. Revised draft currently under revision.

GLO/98/AH/10. Integrating human rights in the United Nations system: strengthening national capacities for human rights training of military and police peacekeepers

Date of approval by OHCHR: 2 October 1998
OHCHR contribution: US$ 165,878

Activities: Three training courses on peacekeeping, human rights, humanitarian assistance for military and police trainers held in November 1998, May 1999 and November 1999.

2. African region

51. The following regional projects are under implementation in Africa:

RAF/96/AH/30. Strengthening of african regional capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 21 October 1997
Implementing agency: African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

Cooperating agency: OAU
OHCHR contribution: US$ 381,940

Activities: First African Ministerial Conference on Human and Peoples' Rights held in Port Louis, Mauritius, April 1999. Implementation of the training session in Dakar, May 1999. Two fellowships (mid-June 99); support to the ad hoc group of experts on the protocols relating to the protection of women in Africa, 6-15 June 1999. Elaboration of the training manual on the African Charter.

RAF/97/AH/02. Strengthening regional and national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights in southern Africa

Date of approval by OHCHR: 2 June 1999
Implementing Agency: OHCHR
OHCHR contribution: US$ 345,950

Activities: Regional programme adviser in Pretoria to support OHCHR/UNDP human rights technical cooperation in southern Africa. Project to be included in the regional strategy for Africa.

RAF/99/AH/02. Regional police training for SARPCCO

Date of approval by OHCHR: 1 March 1999
OHCHR contribution: US$ 36,590

Activities: Human rights training for SADC (Southern African Development Community) police forces in cooperation with SARPCCO (Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization) took place in Gaborone, April 1999.

52. The following national projects are under implementation in the African region:

Malawi MLW/95/AH/34. Consolidation of the democratic process

Date of approval by OHCHR: 24 April 1996
Implementing agency: Ministry of Justice
OHCHR contribution: US$ 786,378

Activities: Human rights training for the military. Human rights training for police prosecutors. Human rights training for prisons officials. Provision of Human rights documentation. Human rights training for the Human Rights Commission, June 1999. Consultation mission, September 1999. Translation and publication of the Universal Declaration in Chechewa. Fellowship for staff and commissioner of the Human Rights Commission envisaged for December 1999.

Morocco
MOR/96/AH/20. Introducing human rights curricula in primary and secondary schools

Date of approval by OHCHR: 21 February 1997
Implementing agency: Ministry of Education and Ministry in charge of Human Rights
OHCHR contribution: US$ 326,000

Activities: Ten training sessions for first-level Inspecteurs de l'enseignement commenced in May 1999.

Namibia
NAM/96/AH/10. Assistance in the implementation of human rights standards

Date of approval by OHCHR: 19 June 1997
Implementing agency: Ministry of Justice
OHCHR contribution: US$ 293,800

Activities: Training course on human rights for immigration police officers, 12-13 July 1999 in Granua and 15-16 July 1999 in Rundu. Training course on human rights for the prison services, 20-22 November 1999. Support to Documentation Center.

South Africa
SAF/96/AH/16. Human rights institutional strengthening

Date of approval by OHCHR: 30 April 1997
Implementing agency: Ministry of Justice
OHCHR contribution: US$ 1,014,627

Activities: Support to the Land Commission. Assistance to Justice College for the integration of human rights for magistrates, prosecutors and court personnel. Training for prison personnel, May 1999. Peacekeeper training, April 1999. Training for magistrates, prosecutors and court personnel, March-April 1999. Human rights project management training for the police, March 1999. Workshop on the International Criminal Court, July 1999. Workshop on reporting, September 1999. Legal drafting training, October 1999.

Burundi
BDI/97/AH/06. Strengthening of the rule of law

Date of approval by OHCHR: 3 November 1997
Government implementing agency: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Human Rights
OHCHR contribution: US$ 919,045

Activities: Taking part in the commission working on the revision of the Code of Penal Procedure. Second session of training for Judiciary Police officers. Drafting of 15 scenarios for

human rights broadcasts and recording of three TV broadcasts. Three training seminars on human rights for school directors and inspectors of Kirundo, Muyinga, Bururi, Rutana, Makamba and Rumonge provinces, as well as for 15 teachers of Bujumbura; and three training days for teachers, trainee teachers and pupils, January-April 1999.

Madagascar
MAG/97/AH/10. Strengthening of national capacities in the field of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR:	10 September 1998
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 453,153

Activities: Preparatory mission to organize the training course for secondary and high schools, 13-17 September 1999. Assistance to the Minister of Justice in activities related to the revising of laws, November 1999. Training course for members of the National Human Rights Commission, November 1999. First project monitoring mission, 6-10 December 1999. Preparations for celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration through an NGO training course, with the participation of the National Human Rights Commission, the Ministry of Justice, teachers, the National Assembly and international NGOs (7-10 December 1999).

Sierra Leone
SIL/97/AH/23. Strengthening grass-roots human rights education initiatives

Approval by OHCHR:	November 1998
Implementing agency:	Human Rights Unit of the United Nations Observer Mission to Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL)
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 84,980

Activities: The project involves some 160 religious personalities. The UNOMSIL Human Rights Unit is overseeing the project and will report on its implementation by June 2000.

Uganda
UGA/97/AH/07. Support to establish a national institution

Approval by OHCHR:	September 1998
Implementing Agency:	OHCHR/UNDP
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 250,000

Activities: An Institutional Development Adviser has been sent to Kampala for 18 months. Currently recruiting an international consultant for setting up of a documentation/information centre.

Gabon
GAB/98/AH/01. Development of national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 10 November 1998
OHCHR contribution: US$ 681,657

Activities: Support to the establishment of the Documentation Centre, November 1999. Provision of equipment and supplies for the director and secretaries of the National Human Rights Commission, March/April/May 1999. Provision of equipment and supplies for the Human Rights Division of the Ministry of Justice, November 1999. Provision of human rights fellowships for four officials to the Institut des droits de l'homme in Strasbourg, France, June/July 1999. Consultation mission to Geneva by the project director, 13-17 December 1999.

Morocco
MOR/98/AH/08. Centre de documentation, d'information et de formation en matière de droits de l'homme

Approval by OHCHR: 6 April 1999
OHCHR contribution: US$ 480,000

Activities: Due to commence in 2000.

Somalia
SOM/99/AH/05. Building and strengthening local and national capacities and infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights while integrating human rights in the United Nations agencies working in Somalia

Approval by OHCHR: 21 August 1999
Implementing agency: UNDP-Somalia
OHCHR contribution: US$ 1,456,570

Activities: To prepare the context for technical assistance in the field of human rights by providing support to the local administration and monitoring human rights violations.

3. Asian and Pacific region

53. The following regional projects are under implementation in the Asian-Pacific region:

RAS/98/AH/16. Promoting national human rights institutions in Asia and the Pacific: development of training programme on investigatory techniques

Approval by OHCHR: 8 April 1999
OHCHR contribution: US$ 22,335

Activities: Draft project document presented by consultant. Project will be a component of a comprehensive project to support national institutions in the Asian-Pacific region.

RAS/99/AH/01. Enhancing national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian-Pacific region: national action plans

Approval by OHCHR:	21 June 1999
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 187,191.40

Activities: Compendium of national action plans produced and available. Regional workshop held in Bangkok 5-7 July 1999. Consultant recruited to develop the handbook on national human rights action plans and completion expected by April 2000.

RAS/99/AH/15. Enhancing national capacities for human rights education in North-East Asian schools

Approval by OHCHR:	22 October 1999
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 146,690

Activities: Resource training kit on existing human rights education curricula and other materials produced and used in the Asian-Pacific region being prepared; a subregional training workshop on human rights education in North-East Asian schools held in Seoul, 1-4 December 1999.

54. The following national projects are under implementation in the Asian-Pacific region:

Bhutan BHU/95/AH/20. Strengthening national human rights capacity

Approval by OHCHR:	30 September 1996
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 290,600

Activities: Provision of documentation for the High Court library. Award of two fellowships to judges for placement in foreign institutions, October-December 1999 and two to police and prison officials.

Nepal NEP/95/AH/21. Strengthening the administration of justice and building national human rights capacity

Date of approval by OHCR:	7 June 1996
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
Cooperating agency:	Ministry for Foreign Affairs
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 441,050

Activities: Integration of OHCHR training materials in the curriculum of the National Police Academy. Advisory services for the establishment of a human rights commission. Selection in October 1999 and issuance of grants to NGO projects, November-December 1999. Evaluation pending.

Palestine PAL/95/AH/24. Support for the rule of law

Approval by OHCHR: 24 April 1996
Implementing agency: OHCHR
OHCHR contribution: US$ 3,205,223

Activities: Assistance to the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) on law reform (inheritance, disabled, administration of justice) ongoing. Assistance to the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights (PICCR) provided to strengthen its research, monitoring and outreach capacity, to conduct legal research and analysis in 10 areas of legislation, and to provide training to members and staff of PLC. PICCR activities under the legal reform grant completed (legal analysis conducted and workshops organized on Basic Law and laws concerning prisons, judicial authority, public gatherings, police forces and firearms, the criminal code, press and publications, associations, social welfare, juvenile justice) and proceedings of most workshops published. Assistance provided to: (a) the Palestinian Association for Legal Sciences (PAOS) to review the criminal procedure code - study by PALS and two consultative workshops completed; (b) the Law Institute of Bir Zeit University to conduct research on sources of legislation - research completed and published as a handbook for lawmakers and the public; (c) *Mashraqiyyat* to conduct legal research and consultations on development of personal status law - study completed and recommendations for Palestinian legislators formulated. Training on human rights and law enforcement provided to the Palestinian Police Force in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and curriculum finalized, and preparations for the development of standing orders ongoing. Assistance to the Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment provided to establish a Women's Rights Unit (ongoing). Participated in several NGO workshops on women, labour, disabled people, elections, social security, role of NGOs, the International Criminal Court, international human rights and humanitarian law, housing rights, democracy and the rule of law, and judicial institutions. Assistance provided to develop a Palestinian national plan of action on human rights, as follows: development of a working paper and framework for the formulation of the plan, consultations and workshops with relevant ministries and civil society organizations, and recruitment of consultants to develop six sectoral strategies. Participation in Ministry of Higher Education workshop on integration of human rights into university curricula. Preparations for training of judges and prosecutors, and members and staff of PLC under way. Participation in two international conferences on human rights in Gaza and Nazareth. Participation in United Nations inter-agency meetings and in Inter-Agency Gender Task Force ongoing. Second project monitoring mission completed.

Indonesia
IND/98/AH/11. Support for the implementation of Indonesia's National Plan of Action on Human Rights - Phase I

Approval by OHCHR:	4 March 1998
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 952,000

Activities: Translation of human rights documents. Trained 35 government officials on national reporting to human rights treaty bodies, April 1999. Trained NGOs and national institutions (35) on national reporting to human rights treaty bodies, 5-31 July 1999. Training (awareness raising) for high-level government officials on the purposes of reporting to the human rights treaty bodies and the process of preparation of reports, 5-31 July 1999. Trained United Nations agencies on human rights activities in the field, 5-31 July 1999. At present OHCHR is considering with the Government of Indonesia a programme of work for the year 2000.

Mongolia
MON/98/AH/03. Programme for strengthening national infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights

Approval by OHCHR:	18 May 1998
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 217,551

Activities: Translation into English of the Mongolian penitentiary legislation. This legislation is being reviewed by the International Centre for Prison Studies in London. Human rights textbooks have been proposed to the Advisory Board established to create a human rights curriculum for university studies. Subsequently, the selected books will be translated into Mongolian, published in two volumes and distributed to target groups. The curriculum has been tailored accordingly. Activities related to the National Human Rights Commission have been postponed until the Law on the Mongolian Human Rights Commission is adopted by the Parliament.

4. Central and Eastern Europe/of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries

55. The following regional projects are under implementation in the Central and Eastern European/CIS region:

RER/99/AH/13. Trafficking and protecting the rights of trafficked persons: cooperation with the Council of Europe for preventive activities

Approval by OHCHR:	6 August 1999
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
Cooperating agency:	Council of Europe
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 31,000

Activities: Project developed as an emergency response to the current trafficking situation in Albania and Kosovo. Project will enable OHCHR to jointly organize and implement, with the Council of Europe, a human rights anti-trafficking programme comprising a series of awareness raising and training activities.

56. The following national projects are under implementation in the Central and Eastern European/CIS region:

Azerbaijan AZE/95/AH/12. Strengthening capacities and infrastructure for the promotion and protection of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 15 July 1998
Implementing agency: Ministry of Justice
OHCHR contribution: US$ 405,000

Activities: Published human rights material in the Azeri language. Five days' training of trainers course on teaching of use of relevant international standards for human rights protection in the administration of justice for 30 educators from institutions of higher education and five days' training course on teaching of use of relevant international standards for human rights protection in the administration of justice for judges, procurators, lawyers and experts at the Office of the President, July 1999. Assistance to Parliament, the Office of the President and relevant ministries in the drafting process of a national plan of action, November 1999. Workshop on the creation of a national human rights institution, 23-24 November 1999.

Armenia ARM/95/AH/11. Strengthening capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights

Approval by OHCHR: 30 May 1996
Implementing agency: Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Department of Human Rights
OHCHR contribution: US$ 232,215

Activities: Workshop for government officials, NGOs, educators and legal community on the development of a national plan of action for the promotion and protection of human rights, October 1999.

Georgia GEO/95/AH/13. Strengthening capacities and infrastructures for the promotion and protection of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 8 October 1997
Implementing agency: Ministry for Foreign Affairs
OHCHR contribution: US$ 715,397

Activities: Two new international human rights officers started in the Sukhmi office in January 1999. Two training seminars for educators held in December 1999. Documentation for depository libraries being distributed. Human rights publications and books delivered.

Two fellowships granted. One government official began LL.M. course at Leiden University (Netherlands). One judge sent to human rights course at Birmingham University (United Kingdom).

Latvia
LAT/95/AH/17. Capacity development of the national human rights office

Approval by OHCHR:	12 January 1996
Implementing agency:	Latvian Human Rights Office
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 694,950

Activities: Activities completed. Evaluation mission with UNDP under way.

Republic of Moldova
MOL/97/AH/19. Support to democratic initiatives in the field of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR:	19 December 1997
Implementing agency:	OHCHR
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 147,000

Activities: Mission of international consultant on human rights institutions, organizational design and human resources analysis, programme design and implementation, 12 March-12 April 1999. Travel of Special Adviser on National Institutions, June 1999. Mission of international consultant on human rights institutions, organizational design and human resources analysis, programme design and implementation, September 1999.

Russian Federation
RUS/97/AH/03. Human rights education capacity development

Approval by OHCHR:	18 June 1999
Implementing agency:	National NGO
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 3,683,686

Activities: National NGO selected to implement, October 1999. First expert meeting planned for January 2000.

Croatia
CRO/98/AH/13. Strengthening protection and promotion of human rights in Croatia

Approval by OHCHR:	10 May 1999
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 224,990

Activities: Initial training seminars carried out. Project implemented through field presence, office administered by UNOPS.

Georgia
GEO/98/AH/22. Capacity development of the Public Defenders Office in Georgia

Approval by OHCHR: 22 March 1999
OHCHR contribution: US$ 57,500

Activities: Special adviser on National Institutions to participate in project Steering Committee meetings of the UNDP project and to provide strategic advice on policy matters, substantive human rights issues and resource issues. Expertise and advice available from OHCHR on national institutions is systematically incorporated into the larger UNDP project. Additional expertise is to be provided as determined necessary.

5. Latin American and Caribbean region

57. The following regional projects are under implementation in the Latin American and Caribbean region:

RLA/99/AH/22. Preparatory assistance for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Latin American and Caribbean Region

Approval by OHCHR: 12 November 1999
Implementing agency: OHCHR
Cooperating agency: Government of Ecuador
OHCHR contribution: US$ 145,925

Activities: Three-day workshop held in Quito, 29 November-1 December 1999. Aim is to launch a framework for the development of a human rights regional cooperation strategy for the region.

58. The following national projects are under implementation in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

Argentina
ARG/95/AH/33. Strengthening human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR: 22 January 1996
Implementing agency: Under-Secretariat of Human and Social Rights of the Ministry of the Interior
OHCHR contribution: US$ 335,257

Activities: Publication of compilation of speeches given at the seminar on international protection of human rights. Publication of a bibliography on education. One fellowship to participate in the Human Rights Institute in Strasbourg and internship at OHCHR, July 1999. Human rights magazine Hechos y Derechos No. 6. Acquisition of books, videos, subscription to relevant human rights documentation.

El Salvador
ELS/95/AH/10. Training and documentation for the strengthening of human rights
ELS/95/AH/28. The police and human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR:	16 December 1996
Implementing agency:	Ministry for Foreign Affairs
OHCHR contributions:	US$ 1,325,637 and US$ 456,836

Activities: A 1999 study tour on community policing was conducted by three police officials to Nicaragua. Two fellowships were provided to personnel working in the penitentiary system to participate in a human rights training programme in Costa Rica. Commemoration of the forty-ninth and fiftieth anniversaries of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International Women's Day celebrated by the holding of a conference on the political rights of women. Setting up of an ad-hoc committee for the elaboration of a national plan of action on human rights education confirmed.

Haiti
HAI/95/AH/03. Institutional capacity-building in the legal sector and support to the National Truth Commission

Approval by OHCHR:	11 December 1996
Implementing agency:	International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH)
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 728,986

Activities: In March 1999, parallel to the visit to Haiti by the independent expert, Mr. A. Dieng, further consultations were held with MICIVIH on the implementation of the remaining activities under the project. A seminar was organized by MICIVIH from 7 November to 13 November 1999 for Haitian NGOs, to familiarize them with international and regional systems of human rights protection and with procedures for filing individual complaints.

Bolivia
BOL/96/AH/14. Promotion and protection of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR:	27 August 1998
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 576,900

Activities: Recruitment of project personnel started in January 1999 and implementation of activities started in March 1999. A monitoring mission was carried out in July 1999. An international consultant was hired in September 1999. A monitoring mission was carried out in November 1999.

Guatemala
GUA/96/AH/13/Add.1. Strengthening of national capacities in the field of human rights

Date of approval by OHCHR:	25 November 1996
Implementing agency:	Ministry of External Relations, Ministry of the Interior and the Presidential Commission for Coordinating Executive Policy in the Field of Human Rights (COPREDEH)
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 758,230

Activities: Addendum to the project signed by the Government on 19 January 1999. A mandatory and initial review mission to start implementation of activities took place in March 1999. An international consultant was recruited to implement the training activities for the NGOs from May to July 1999. A national consultant was recruited for the Judicial School, July 1999.

Nicaragua
NIC/98/AH/14. Right to security: preventive police-community and human rights actions

Date of approval by OHCHR:	24 September 1999
Implementing agency:	Ministry of the Interior/National Police
OHCHR contribution:	US$ 357,080

Activities: Terms of reference prepared for consultants. Project likely to commence in January 2000. Two main areas of focus: development of crime prevention strategies at the community level and forms for presentation of complaints; and human rights promotion by training police officers on human rights issues.

C. Technical cooperation projects in an advanced stage of formulation

59. The following global technical cooperation projects are in an advanced stage of formulation:

GLO/97/AH/22. AIDS and human rights: strengthening the capacities of national human rights institutions to address the human rights implications of the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

GLO/98/AH/20. Second phase: support to the implementation of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1999-2000);

GLO/98/AH/21. To protect and promote the rights of internally-displaced persons by strengthening and building national capacities for promotion and protection of human rights;

GLO/99/AH/25. Eliminating trafficking and protecting the rights of trafficked persons: global project for 2000-2001. Project will enable OHCHR to expand its anti-trafficking programme.

60. The following technical cooperation projects in the African region are in an advanced stage of formulation:

RAF/99/AH/04. Support to the Central African mechanism for conflict prevention and management (establishment of a subregional centre for human rights);

RAF/99/AH/07. Subregional workshop on national action plans for West Africa and Central Africa;

RAF/97/AH/08. Subregional workshop on national action plans for Central Africa;

RAB/99/AH/14. Strengthening capacities of non-governmental organizations.

61. The following national technical cooperation projects in the African region are in an advanced stage of formulation:

LES/98/AH/04. Lesotho. Support for human rights, democracy and rule of law. Human rights officer to assist in preparation of forthcoming election and implementation of a technical assistance programme;

CAM/99/AH/09. Cameroon. Strengthening of the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms of Cameroom. UNDP-OHCHR joint project for strengthening of the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms and the establishment of a regional human rights institute;

MLI/99/AH/10. Mali. Technical assistance to the Government with a view to strengthening human rights structures;

NER/99/AH/11. Niger. Technical assistance to the Government with a view to strengthening human rights structures;

STP/99/AH/06. Sao Tome and Principe. Strengthening national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights.

62. The following technical cooperation project in the Asian and Pacific region is in an advanced stage of formulation:

RAS/99/AH/24. Workshop on human rights education to be held in Japan in February 2000.

63. The following national technical cooperation projects in the Asian and Pacific region are in an advanced stage of formulation:

Philippines. Protecting the rights of children in conflict with the law. Assistance in the area of juvenile justice;

China. A needs assessment mission was carried out and a programme of technical cooperation is foreseen including technical assistance to strengthen national capacities in promoting and protecting all human rights and the rule of law.

64. The following technical cooperation projects in the Latin American and Caribbean region are in an advanced stage of formulation:

RLA/97/AH/17. Dissemination of the international and regional norms for protection of human rights in the Americas;

RLA/98/AH/18. Domestic violence: development and testing of a training manual for law enforcement officials;

RLA/99/AH/06. Strengthening the rule of law and promotion of human rights in the Andean region. New elements for cooperation, particularly with national institutions and the civil society, considered.

65. The following national technical cooperation project in the Latin American and Caribbean region is in an advanced stage of formulation:

Ecuador. Strengthening national capacities through the implementation of a national plan of action for human rights. The project aims at strengthening the democratic system and the rule of law with due respect for human rights in Ecuador, by reinforcing the Ecuadorean capacity to develop and implement a national plan of action for human rights, to be coordinated and monitored by a national commission.

D. New requests received

66. The following national requests for technical cooperation have been received from the African region :

Equatorial Guinea. Request for needs assessment mission - technical cooperation assistance;

Guinea-Bissau. Request for technical assistance for peace-building;

Guinea. Request for the promotion of human rights;

Liberia. Request for technical assistance on human rights structures and mechanisms.

67. The following national request for technical cooperation has been received from the Latin American and Caribbean region:

Guyana. Request for technical assistance on reporting obligations.

68. The following national request for technical cooperation has been received from the Central and Eastern European/CIS region:

Uzbekistan. Request for the promotion of human rights.

Notes

[1] Professional Training Series No. 5 (HR/P/PT/5), United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.XIV.5

[2] Ibid. (HR/P/PT/5/Add.1), United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.XIV.6

[3] Detailed information on OHCHR's technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights is available from the OHCHR Web site (http:\\www.unhchr.ch), the status reports on technical cooperation in the field of human rights, the status reports on contributions to the VFTC, reports of the sessions of the Board of Trustees of VFTC; the compilation of project fact sheets, monthly, quarterly and six-monthly reports of field presence, and separate reports of all seminars, training activities and workshops.

[4] All projects are funded from the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, unless otherwise indicated. The OHCHR contributions mentioned are for the entire project, while activities reported only refer to the year 1999.

Annex

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

1.	**Income As of 16 November 1999 (a)**	
	Beginning balance 1 January 1998 (b)	5 020 631
	Total income received in 1998/99	14 244 372
	TOTAL INCOME	**19 265 003**
2.	**Commitments**	
	Total allotments issued as of 31 October 1999	13 554 858
	Total allotments issued from 1 to 16 November 1999	327 300
	13% programme support costs based on allotments issued	1 804 681
	TOTAL COMMITMENTS	**(15 686 839)**
3.	**Estimated balance of funds (gross) available as of 16 November 1999**	**3 578 164**
4.	**Estimated 15% operating cash reserve**	**1 666 343**
5.	**Estimated net funds available for future activities (less 13%)**	**1 911 821**

(a) This balance sheet has been prepared by the secretariat of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation. As such, it should not be considered a United Nations official financial document.

(b) Contributions paid directly to the United Nations Office of Project Services not included.